

House Resolution No. 3104

Whereas, James R. Ritter, Ed.D., has been Superintendent of the Columbia Public Schools since 1998, an important undertaking which he will draw to a close in retirement after the 2002-2003 school year; and

Whereas, Superintendent Ritter enjoys a long, illustrious history with the Columbia School District which includes service as a Teacher, Counselor, Assistant Principal, and Associate Principal at Hickman High School from 1959 to 1971, as Director of Transportation from 1975 to 1976, as Assistant Superintendent from 1976 to 1985, and as Associate Superintendent from 1985 to 1991; and

Whereas, interspersed with Dr. Ritter's local educational endeavors are his activities as Dean of Students from 1971 to 1975 at Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville, Vice President of First National Bank in Columbia from 1991 to 1992, Coordinator of Supervision with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from 1993 to 1995, and Associate Executive Director of the Missouri School Boards Association from 1995 to 1998; and

Whereas, Superintendent Ritter has developed and maintained an exemplary reputation for professional and community service through his longstanding affiliation with the Missouri Association of School Administrators, National Association of School Administrators, Missouri State Teachers Association, Phi Delta Kappa professional education organization, Columbia Area United Way, Children's Miracle Network Telethon, Advent, Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors, Comprehensive Human Services, Missouri United Methodist Church, Police Chief Selection Committee, Reality House, Salvation Army, Shelter Insurance Employee Scholarship Committee, Columbia Public Schools Educational Foundation Board, Front Door, and Northwest Rotary Club; and

Whereas, justifiably proud of his status as a family man, Dr. Ritter is the beloved husband of Kathy, Assistant Principal at Rock Bridge High School, and the loving father of Julie Collier, a teacher in Carthage; Joe, a senior at Westminster College; and Tim, a freshman at Westminster College;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the significant career accomplishments garnered down through the years by Dr. James Ritter and to convey to him this legislative body's heartiest congratulations and best wishes upon partaking of the special opportunities and pleasures traditionally associated with the golden years of retirement; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the well-deserved retirement of Dr. James R. Ritter, Superintendent of the Columbia Public Schools.

Offered by _____
Representative Jeff Harris, Dist. #23

Representative Chuck Graham, Dist. #24

Representative Vicky Riback Wilson, Dist. #25

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and

correct copy of House Resolution No. 3104, adopted
May 28, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker